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***Exochomus quadripustulatus* (L.) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) as a host of *Dinocampus coccinellae* (Schrank) (Hymenoptera: Braconidae).** – During an extended study of mortality of pine ladybirds *Exochomus quadripustulatus* (L.), mainly in Sheffield, the bulk of parasitoids that emerged from the ladybird pupae, were identified as the chalcid *Aprostocetus neglectus* (Domenichini) (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). In early May, 2004 a pine ladybird imago was observed in a crack of bark on a sycamore tree in Millhouses Park (VC 63, SK3383) which was immobile for at least a week. It was removed on 18th May and seen to be attached to the tree by a cocoon. Kept in a fairly warm place, a wasp emerged on 24th May which appeared to be a small *Dinocampus coccinellae* (Schrank). This was confirmed by Dr Mark Shaw.

Majerus (1997, *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **10**: 15–24) detailed his observations of the parasitoid *Dinocampus coccinellae* predating various British coccinellid species. This parasitoid, which develops within the ladybird imago and pupates below it, was not observed on c. 3000 specimens of *E. quadripustulatus* nor any other members of the sub-family Chilocorinae. Majerus quotes the non-inclusion of any of the British chilocorines as hosts of the braconid in the list of Hodek (1973, *Biology of Coccinellidae*, Junk/Academic Press). Neither do Klausnitzer & Klausnitzer (1977, *Marienkafer*, Westarp Wissenschaften, Magdeburg) include chilocorines as hosts. However, Hodek does include a record of *D. coccinellae* parasitizing *Exochomus concavus* Fursch in Transvaal, South Africa. This therefore appears to be the first record of *E. quadripustulatus* as prey and possibly the first palaearctic record from any chilocorine.

I thank Dr Shaw for his advice. The organisms and cocoon are deposited in the Royal Museum of Scotland. – PAUL R. MABBOTT, 49 Endowood Road, Millhouses, Sheffield, S7 2LY. mabbott@blueyonder.co.uk